September 25, 2015

MEMORANDUM FOR: Research Council Members
                    For dissemination to Line Offices

FROM: Richard W. Spinrad, Ph.D.
                    NOAA Chief Scientist

SUBJECT: NOAA Public Access Policy for Scholarly Publications

In accordance with the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy Memorandum *Increasing Access to the Results of Federally Funded Scientific Research*, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) drafted a plan for increasing Public Access to Research Results (PARR) in early 2015 (http://dx.doi.org/10.7289/V5F47M2H). This plan describes the activities that will be undertaken by NOAA to increase public accessibility to the publications and digital data funded by taxpayer dollars.

As called for in the PARR Plan, the Public Access Policy for Scholarly Publications defines a policy for digital NOAA research publications. It applies to any digital information product produced through the use of NOAA funding and intended for public or limited external distribution following the policy's effective date, and which meets specified criteria. Products created through federal staff time, contracts with third parties, and grants or other agreements are included.

Under the auspices of this policy, each NOAA publisher shall transmit a submission information package for each digital NOAA research publication to the NOAA Central Library for ingest into the NOAA Institutional Repository (IR) no later than one year after publication. Each submission information package will contain the digital objects that constitute each digital NOAA research publication along with a metadata record or enough information to ensure the creation of a metadata record.

The policy will take effect on October 1, 2015, and will apply to all digital NOAA research publications that are issued by a NOAA office after that date. While the NOAA IR will not be fully operational until January 1, the Library will receive information and prepare it for inclusion in the IR during the interim period.

ATTACHMENT: NOAA Public Access Policy for Scholarly Publications